OBLON
SPIVAK
MCCIELLAND
MAIER
&
NEUSTADT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/627,731

Applicants: Kunihiro AKIYOSHI, et al.

Docket No.: 240554US2

Filing Date: July 28, 2003

For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS, INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS AND VERSION CHECK METHOD

Group Art Unit: 2625 Examiner: QIN, Yixing

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

## Provisional Election

Our online credit card payment in the amount of \$0.00 is being made covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,

MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

James J. Kulbaski

Registration No. 34,648

Customer Number

(703) 413-3000 (phone) (703) 413-2220 (fax) Ronald A. Rudder Registration No. 45,618